



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

NASSIF et al

Atty. Ref.: **1721-34**

Serial No. **09/928,457**

Group:

Filed: **August 14, 2001**

Examiner:

For: **DNA AND PROTEINS OR PEPTIDES SPECIFIC OF THE
NEISSERIA MENINGITIDIS SPECIES BACTERIA,
METHOD FOR OBTAINING THEM AND THEIR
BIOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS**

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March 26, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Notice to File Missing Parts dated October 26, 2001, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Insert the attached Abstract after the claims pages.

REMARKS

The application has been amended to include the attached Abstract, in response to the attached Notice to File Missing Parts. The requisite fee is also attached.

The applicants requested an interview with the Examiner before the issuance of the first substantive Office Action, in a telephone message left by the undersigned for

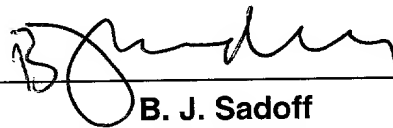
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the Examiner in the parent application Serial No. 09/214,759, (i.e., Examiner Portner), on March 15, 2002. Examiner Portner responded to the undersigned by telephone on March 19, 2002, stating that an interview could not be held with her prior to the Examiner's supervisor (i.e., Examiner Smith) assigning the above-identified application, which would not be done until the applicants responded to the Notice to File Missing Parts and the application was released from OIPE. The applicants request an interview with the Examiner prior to issuance of a first Action. The Examiner will appreciate that the applicants will need to arrange for travel and consideration of the time involved is requested as the applicants are interested in having an interview to resolve as many of the outstanding issues as possible prior to a first Action on the merits. The Examiner is requested therefore to contact the undersigned to arrange an interview convenient to all parties as soon as possible after the application is assigned to an Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: _____



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